

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00703 091410Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SSM-03 IO-13
HA-05 L-03 /084 W
-----033012 091412Z /43

P 091240Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 485
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 703

LONDON FOR USDEL ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, IS, EG, JO, XF, US
SUBJ: WEST BANK - ANWAR NUSEIBEH'S VIEWS

1. WEST BANK NOTABLE ANWAR NUSEIBEH ASKED ME TO CALL AT HIS HOME MARCH 8. OSTENSIBLE REASON WAS TO DISCUSS UPCOMING VISIT OF BUISNESS LEADERS SPONSORED BY TIME INC.; REAL REASON WAS TO BE BRIEFED ON ATHERTON MISSION.

2. I GAVE NUSEIBEH AN ACCOUNT ALONG THE LINES OF ATHERTON'S BACKGROUNDERS OF THE PREVIOUS DAY. HE LISTENED INTENTLY AND COMMENTED ON FOLLOWING TOPICS:

3. DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES. WHY, NUSEIBEH ASKED, WAS SO MUCH EFFORT BEING EXPENDED ON A DECLARATION OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES WHEN ALL THAT WAS NEEDED WAS IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 242? I SAID OBJECT OF CURRENT EXERCISE WAS TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JERUSA 00703 091410Z

TAKE US BEYOND 242 AND, FRANKLY, I WAS SURPRISED TO HEAR HIM, OF ALL PEOPLE, IMPLY 242 ADEQUATE ON PALESTINIAN ISSUE. NUSEIBEH ARGUED STRONGLY THAT WITHDRAWAL PROVISION TOOK CARE OF WEST BANK/GAZA AND REFUGEE PARAGRAPH TOOK CARE OF PALESTINIANS IN DIASPORA. I TOLD HIM BLUNTLY IT UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT ISRAELIS TO ACCEPT TOTAL WITHDRAWAL AND UNFETTERED SELF DETERMIN-

ATION. PRESENT DIPLOMATIC PHASE WAS EFFORT TO ACHIEVE MEASURE OF AGREEMENT ON OUTSTANDING CORE ISSUES OF WITHDRAWAL AND PALESTINIANS WHICH WOULD THEN PERMIT DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS.

4. WITH SURPRISING BITTERNESS, NUSEIBEH RHETORICALLY ASKED IF ISRAELIS WERE INTERESTED IN NEGOTIATIONS OR WERE THEY INTENT, WITH U.S. SUPPORT, ON IMPOSING THEIR WILL ON ARABS? IT WOULD NOT BE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY A VICTOR HAD DONE SO, BUT RESULTING SITUATION WOULD NOT ENDURE. I STRESSED ISRAEL, EGYPT AND U.S. ALL STRIVING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT AND DIFFICULTIES CURRENTLY BEING ENCOUNTERED REFLECTED THE FACT KEY ISSUES WERE BEING ADDRESSED MEANINGFULLY FOR THE FIRST TIME.

5. NUSEIBEH SAID SADAT AND HUSSEIN WERE CORRECT IN REFUSING TO DISCUSS WEST BANK/GAZA. BOTH WERE GOVERNED BY RABAT DECISION WHICH GAVE PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION MANDATE ONLY TO PLO. I COUNTERED THAT RABAT DECISION, LIKE EARLIER KHARTOUM DECLARATION, HAD BEEN OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS. IF AGREEMENT COULD BE ACHIEVED ON DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND ON GUIDELINES FOR WEST BANK/GAZA, THIS COULD PAVE THE WAY FOR WIDER NEGOTIATIONS, HOPEFULLY INCLUDING HUSSEIN AND SOME BONA FIDE WEST BANK/GAZAN REPRESENTATIVES. NUSEIBEH DID NOT CONTEST THIS POINT.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 JERUSA 00703 091410Z

6. NUSEIBEH WAS CRITICAL OF SADAT'S TACTICS. HE THOUGHT LATTER SHOULD BE MENDING FENCES WITH HIS ARAB BRETHREN THROUGH SPECIAL EMISSARIES. SADAT, HE SAID, GAVE IMPRESSION OF ARROGANCE. SADAT SEEMED TO FEEL HE HAD BACKING OF SAUDIS AND THE U.S. AND THEREFORE DID NOT NEED TO BOTHER ABOUT OTHER ARAB OPINION. I SAID I HAD IMPRESSION SADAT WAS VERY SENSITIVE TO ARAB OPINION. IT COULD BE THAT FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER HE HAD BECOME IMPATIENT WITH PACE OF GENEVA PREPARATIONS AND THAT THIS, RATHER THAN ANY INSENSITIVITY TO ARAB OPINION, HAD LED TO HIS INITIATIVE.

7. COMMENT: NUSEIBEH IS PRO-HUSSEIN. NORMALLY HE IS URBANE IN DEMEANOR AND MEASURED IN HIS JUDGEMENTS. HIS OUTBURST ON THIS OCCASION PROBABLY REFLECTS FRUSTRATION AND UNEASINESS OVER WHAT HE PERCEIVES TO BE THE HARDENING OF BEGIN'S POSITION ON THE WEST BANK/PALESTINIAN ISSUES. HE LIT UP ONCE WHEN DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITY WEIZMAN MIGHT REPLACE BEGIN AND THEN RELAPSED WITH OBSERVATION "CONCERNING THE WEST BANK, WEIZMAN IS AS

BAD AS BEGIN."

NEWLIN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WEST BANK, PERSONAL OPINION, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JERUSA00703
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780106-0398
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780389/aaaacwvs.tel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c500d9ca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3390097
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEST BANK - ANWAR NUSEIBEH'S VIEWS
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, IS, EG, JO, XF, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c500d9ca-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014